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63428-063

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-4. (CANCELLED)

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~robotic arm assembly~~ as recited in claim ~~1-13~~ wherein said ~~pair of sockets~~ are made of aluminum.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~robotic arm assembly~~ as recited in claim ~~2-13~~ wherein ~~each of said pair of sockets~~ cover more than one half of a surface area of ~~one of said balls~~.

7-9. (CANCELLED)

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A robotic arm comprising:

a ball and socket assembly including:

_____ a socket component ~~having including~~ a first clamp half and a second clamp half secured together to form a pair of sockets, ~~said socket component including a bottom surface and a pair of faces each inclined relative to said bottom surface; and a pair of opposed inclined edges;~~ and

_____ a pair of ball components each ~~having including an arm and a ball, wherein each of said balls is received in one of said pair of sockets and an arm, and movement of said ball in said socket allows for pivotal adjustment of said arm.~~

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein said balls have a ~~ball diameter~~ of approximately 1.75 inch and said arms have ~~an arm~~ diameter of approximately 1.25 inch.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein said balls are made of a ball material ~~harder than a socket material of and said pair of sockets are made of a socket material, wherein said ball material is harder than said socket material.~~

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16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein said first clamp half and said second clamp half are secured together by a pair of bolts located substantially between said pair of sockets.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein said first clamp half and said second clamp half are secured together by four bolts, one of said four bolts being located over one of said pair of sockets, another of said four bolts being located under said one of said pair of sockets, one of said four bolts being located over the other of said pair of sockets, and one of said four bolts being located under the said other of said pair of sockets.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 further including ~~wherein a gap is defined between~~ said first clamp half and said second clamp half.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein said robotic arm includes a plurality of ~~said ball and socket assemblies~~.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein an angle defined between each of said pair of inclined edges are inclined faces and a plane defined by said lower surface is approximately 75° from a lower edge of said assembly.

21. (ORIGINAL) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein said balls are serrated.

22-26. (CANCELLED)

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein each of said ~~openings pair of sockets~~ expose a portion of ~~each one of~~ said balls in ~~each of said pair of~~ opposing socket.

28. (CANCELLED)

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29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein said arm of each of said pair of ball components has a range of motion of 90°.
30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The robotic arm as recited in claim 18 wherein said gap is adjustable.
31. (NEW) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein each of said pair of faces define one of said pair of sockets.
32. (NEW) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein one of said arms can be pivoted while the other of said arms is locked in a fixed position.
33. (NEW) The robotic arm as recited in claim 13 wherein movement of one of said balls in one of said pair of sockets pivotally adjusts a position of said arm.